

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 559

By Brown

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate the members of
Dillard University Class of 1957 on the
celebration of their fiftieth class reunion.

WHEREAS, college reunions are an important part of the fabric of our society, because they provide an excellent opportunity to fondly remember the past, to renew old acquaintances, and to embrace and look forward to the future; and

WHEREAS, it is the great pleasure of this General Assembly to honor and congratulate those graduates of Dillard University in Louisiana, both past and present, who have brought great honor and acclaim to our country through both their personal and professional successes; and

WHEREAS, Dillard University's Class of 1957 is one such worthy group of individuals, who will join together for a Reunion/Commencement weekend from May 17 to May 20 of 2007, to celebrate their fiftieth Class Reunion; and

WHEREAS, the class will experience the historic fifty-year march down the Avenue of the Oaks to receive their Golden diplomas; and

WHEREAS, reunion participants have been invited to savor a "Taste of New Orleans" with a Champagne Jazz Lunch and a Creole/Cajun picnic and will enjoy the Annual Golf Classic, sponsored by the National Alumni Association, and a Campus Tour; and

WHEREAS, this year's Pre-Commencement Scholarship Benefit Concert features the soulful sounds of singing icon and multi-talented entertainer Roberta Flack in the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center; and

WHEREAS, a great many of the members of the 1957 graduating class of Dillard University have gone on to achieve great things in life, truly making proud their classmates, their peers, and the great State of Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Class of 1957 have worked, and continue to work, with purpose and commitment in their chosen professions, and have raised their families to do likewise, while always showing love and respect for their fellow human beings; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly hereby salutes the esteemed Class of 1957 Golden Graduates of Dillard University: John Q. Adams, Lorell Angelety, Paul Bailey, Barbara Bishop, Lillie Hollingsworth Brady, Katharine Williams Brown, Alfreda Dabney Brumfield, Joan Reed Campbell, Juanita Ramsey Davidson, Lawrence George, Donald Henderson, Franklin Hodges, Lillian Cole Johnson, Mary Florence Green Jones, Vivian Kinchen, Ruby Bosley King, Barbara Blanchard Lee, Gloria Harper Lett, Juanita Lewis, Earl Lucas, Antoinette Gabriel Lyles, Mamie Clark Montague, Narvaletta Harrell Parker, Gloria Jean Nichols, Amy Upshaw Reynolds, Thelma Ruth, Barbara Guillory Thompson, Loretta Johnson Tisdell, Victor Vavasseur, Joyce McKee Verrett, Yvette Marsalis Washington, Zara Peters Wynn, and Tommie F. Brown; and

WHEREAS, Dillard University's National Alumni Association's outstanding leadership includes President Michael G. Griffin of the class of '94, First Vice President Ralph Laster of the class of '61, and Second Vice President Barbara Julian of the class of '56; and

WHEREAS, the reuniting classmates of the class of 1957 will remember those graduates unable to attend the reunion and honor those graduates who are deceased, lamenting their absence from the gathering; and

WHEREAS, Mark A. Burnes ably serves as the Assistant Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations at Dillard, while Rachel W. Mercadel contributes her professional talents as the University's Alumni Relations Associate Director; and

WHEREAS, the success of Dillard University and its programs is due in no small measure to the venerable leadership of its astute President, Dr. Marvalene Hughes; and

WHEREAS, this Tennessee General Assembly is especially pleased to honor and salute Baccalaureate Speaker Reverend Gina M. Stewart who hails from our fair city of Memphis; and

WHEREAS, as the celebration of the Dillard University Class of 1957's fiftieth class reunion takes place, this body finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to recognize this special group of people; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and recognize the members of the Dillard University Class of 1957 on the occasion of their fiftieth Class Reunion and join with them in celebrating this wonderful time together to reminisce of school days past, relate triumphs and adventures occurring throughout the years, and share current news while enjoying the warmth and fellowship of old friends. We extend to these estimable citizens our best wishes for a fantastic reunion overflowing with memories and good times.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.